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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/427,260	10/25/1999	FARHAD KHOSEVAT	239/227	2937
490	7590	09/13/2007	EXAMINER	
VIDAS, ARRETT & STEINKRAUS, P.A. SUITE 400, 6640 SHADY OAK ROAD EDEN PRAIRIE, MN 55344			PELLEGRINO, BRIAN E	
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
		3738		
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
09/13/2007		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/427,260	KHOSRAVI ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Brian E Pellegrino	3738

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 June 2007.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 29,30,55,56,59,60 and 62 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 29,30,55,56,59,60 and 62 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claims 29,30,55,56,59,60,62 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gray et al. (5895406) in view of Khosravi et al. 5824054. Gray et al. (Fig. 6) show a stent with wing-like shape formed of a pair of longitudinal elements with each having undulations. It can be seen that longitudinal adjacent cells are connected at the tips or looped ends of wing-like elements. Additionally, it can be seen there is a peripheral connector 8 joining each of the stretchable cells. The examiner is interpreting the claimed elements "configuration" in this way: configuration is just an **arrangement of parts**. Thus since adjacent rows of cells have different orientations or arrangements, the configurations are different. Claims in a pending application should be given their broadest reasonable interpretation. *In re Pearson*, 181 USPQ 641 (CCPA 1974). See also *In re Morris*, Fed. Cir. 1997 127 F3d 1048, 1054,1055. It can also be seen that the Y-axis intersects the peripheral connector of a cell with the middle of an upward curve split in half. The X and Z axis bound the cell and can be said to intersect cells where the middle of the cell is split in half at a downward curve. Gray et al. disclose the stent pattern provides good axial flexibility, col. 2, lines 27-34. Gray also discloses the stent can be formed from many different methods, col. 4, line 62. However, Gray does not disclose the stent is formed of a coiled sheet or include locking elements or specifically

that a shape memory material can be used. Khosravi et al. show a coiled sheet stent 11 having a plurality of locking elements 15 in openings in the stent. Khosravi also teaches that stents can be made of shape memory materials for flexibility, col. 5, lines 55-67. Khosravi additionally teaches the stent pattern used should accommodate its intended use, col. 3, lines 35-41. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use a coiled sheet to form the stent and include locking elements as taught by Khosravi et al. in the stent of Gray such that it prevents collapse. Gray does disclose materials known to be of shape memory and that respond as shape memory material does when deployed, col. 5, lines 8-10,16-19. Thus, it would also have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use shape memory material as taught by Khosravi with the stent of Gray such that it is more flexible when inserting in tortuous vessels.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 6/26/07 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant's arguments are that Gray does not teach adjacent cells with a different configuration. The Examiner is entitled to give terms in a claim its plain meaning as interpreted by one of ordinary skill in the art. In this instance, the Examiner is interpreting "configuration" to mean an arrangement or orientation. Gray does show a different orientation as admitted by Applicant in the remarks on page 7 submitted 6/26/07 and thus discloses cells with different configurations. In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., structure or cell pattern) are not

recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993). The cells should be defined by structural features not its configuration since Gray clearly can be said to have different adjacent cell configurations. Applicant also argues that a peripheral connector does not join the cells. However, Gray clearly shows a peripheral connector defined by element 8 of which is intersected to split a cell in half where the cells have an upward curve.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Art Unit: 3738

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian E. Pellegrino whose telephone number is 571-272-4756. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8am to 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Corrine McDermott, can be reached on 571-272-4754. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TC 3700, AU 3738



BRIAN E. PELLEGRINO
PRIMARY EXAMINER